

My hat is off to Jason Hicks. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KATHI BECK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Kathi Beck of Eugene, Oregon. Kathi bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the town. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Kathi and her comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Kathi and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

An active outdoorswoman, Kathi was an ardent rock and mountain climber. She was a senior at the University of Oregon where she was majoring in psychology and had taken wilderness survival classes through the university's outdoor program. With her unique background in psychology and the wilderness, Kathi planned to design an outdoor recreational therapy program for children. She became a member of the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression, due to her love of nature and adventurous spirit. She also served as a member of the Oregon Army National Guard's 419th Signal Detachment, and had previously served with the Guard's 741st Service and Supply Battalion at Camp Withycombe, Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Kathi Beck. Kathi personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting herself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. She made the ultimate sacrifice doing what she loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young woman.

A TRIBUTE TO GLENORE M. ANDERSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Glenore M. Anderson in recognition of her civic participation and business success.

Glenore is a living testimony to the power of hard work and effort. A banker by profession, it took Ms. Anderson 11 years to move up the corporate ladder to her current position as vice president/branch manager of the Broadway and Driggs Street Office of HSBC Bank, one of the largest branches of HSBC Bank USA in Brooklyn, NY.

Born on the island of Trinidad and Tobago in the West Indies, Glenore immigrated to the United States in the summer of 1992. She moved here with her family after successfully completing her studies in her home country. A few short months after taking up residence in New York City, she was hired as a customer service representative with Marine Midland bank, which later became HSBC Bank USA. She quickly moved through the ranks and excelled as a sales representative, sales manager, OIC (officer in charge), and vice president/branch manager.

Glenore continues to exemplify this spirit of excellence in her current position as the branch manager. She continuously works toward motivating her staff of 16 by employing a "hands on" approach. In so doing, she demonstrates her abilities as a team player and team leader. She believes that it is important for her staff to see that she can do whatever task is required of them. Due to this type of cohesive effort and leadership skills, the operation of the branch has been very successful, which boasts assets totaling \$105 million.

In addition to her expertise in banking, Glenore has also earned accolades for her efforts to strengthen the community. As such, she was honored with the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry award for Women History makers of 2000; the Network Journal award for 40 Under Forty Achievers of 2001; and an award from the New Deeper Life Tabernacle in 2003.

During the month of February in 2001, 2002 and 2003, she brought this sense of community to the branch by hosting a celebration of Black History Month. The celebrations took the form of an art exhibit mounted in conjunction with Art Groupie.Com, which featured the works of four African/Caribbean American artists.

Married and the mother of one, Glenore receives strong support from her family and friends who believe whole-heartedly in her potential to reach the stars.

Mr. Speaker, Glenore M. Anderson has excelled in the business world while still finding time to contribute to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING NEVADA COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL HOWARD AUSTIN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Prescott Elementary School Principal, Mr. Howard Austin, for his persistent dedication to education and service in his community. The core of Mr. Austin's community relations are deeply rooted in his 40 years as a public educator.

Mr. Austin received his B.A. from Wiley College in Texas and an M.S. from Henderson State University in Arkansas. Through his career, Mr. Austin enriched the many generations of people that he encountered in his community. He is a true role model for not only his students, but for everyone in the com-

munity. Mr. Austin was an active leader in the Elementary Principal's Association and served as a zone director for 8 years. In 2002, Mr. Austin was named Arkansas's Distinguished Principal of the Year.

Mr. Austin's constant involvement in his community led him to support and organize many student-orientated groups throughout the years. Mr. Austin worked with the track team, organized and was head scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts of America Troop, and was choir director for Prescott High School and his local church. He also formed a dance band with other directors that played at various school functions. Mr. Austin's devotion to Nevada County led him to be elected to the Prescott City Council.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Austin, and extend my sincere appreciation and thanks for his dedication and guidance to the people of Nevada County and to my hometown of Prescott. He is an inspiration to us all, and I am privileged to serve as his Congressman in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING TERRY WATSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize an outstanding veteran from Bay City Michigan, Mr. Terry Watson who is retiring from his post as president of the Bay City Fireworks Festival Committee after 32 years of commendable service and dedication. The committee along with the community will honor Mr. Watson during the festival opening ceremony on July 1, 2004, in Bay City.

U.S. Army Vietnam veteran Terry Watson is a life long resident of Bay City, Michigan. Terry has dedicated his life to making the Bay area a better place to live, work and visit. He is a retired Bay City Police Officer with 27 years of notable service.

In 1962 the Fraternal Order of Police founded the Bay City fireworks. In 1981 the event evolved into a 3-day festival, complete with carnival. The fireworks display has been a significant part of the Bay area 4th of July holiday celebration for the past 42 years. The celebration draws a crowd of approximately 350,000 people. The firework show has been rated over the past years as one of the Nation's top five displays. Because of Terry's strong teamwork and leadership skills the Bay City Festival has become a popular family vacation destination spot for not only residents of Michigan but for others residing in states throughout the Midwest.

Aside from being an outstanding leader, Terry is also a devoted family man and he credits the love and support of his devoted wife Peggy, their three children, Jerry, Sheri and Richard, for his success.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in paying tribute to an outstanding veteran, Mr. Terry Watson, for his service to our Nation and his contributions to Bay City, Michigan. I wish him the best in future endeavors.